

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, E-mail No. ET054315229US in an envelope addressed to:

Attorney Do No. 016770-002810US

PATENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
BOX PATENT APPLICATIONS

On 3-30-01

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Connie Krieger

SAN
2A
6-1-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Scott Borland et al.

Application No. 09/822573

Filed: Herewith 3-30-01

For: APERTURE PLATE AND
METHODS FOR ITS CONSTRUCTION
AND USE

Examiner: HICKS

Art Unit: 1741

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the examination on the merits, please cancel claims 1-9 and 15-18 which were prosecuted in the parent application.

Respectfully submitted,

Darin J. Gibby
Reg. No. 38,464

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: (415) 576-0200
Fax: (415) 576-0300
DJG:cll
DE 7036167 v1